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WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

Addendum

The present document contains additional information on assistance by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to the Turks and Caicos Islands.

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TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

1. The programme of assistance of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for the period 1993-1996 is described in document DP/CP/TCI/3, containing the third country programme for the Turks and Caicos Islands, approved by the UNDP Governing Council in February 1993. The total fifth cycle indicative planning figure (IPF) entitlement under this programme amounts to $910,000.

2. In recognition of the specific characteristics of small island economies and in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Turks and Caicos Islands, the programme places emphasis on UNDP support for public sector management, education and environmental management. UNDP resources were primarily used to provide technical services in key areas of the public sector. The provision of a computerized data collection system for customs allows the Government to access accurate statistical data for planning purposes and increases its revenue inflows. At the sectoral level, a review of the country's education system has provided the Government with options to be pursued in streamlining the system to meet labour market trends.

3. The Turks and Caicos Islands also receive UNDP assistance under the fourth regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean, described in document DP/RLA/4. The Caribbean component of this regional programme has made provision for technical assistance in the amount of $7 million to benefit the countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), in which the Turks and Caicos Islands enjoys associate membership.

4. In response to the programme of action ensuing from the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, which took place in Barbados from 25 April to 6 May 1994, two aspects of the programme of action are receiving particular UNDP attention. They are: (a) the establishment of the collaborative network to facilitate access by small island developing States to vital environmental information; and (b) the implementation of a technical assistance programme, which will among other things support the implementation of the programme of action, and in particular address capacity-building constraints of small island developing States.

5. Also in response to the programme of action, UNDP has launched a regional project funded under Capacity 21, which bears potential benefit for the Turks and Caicos Islands, since it will eventually extend its assistance to more than the six pilot countries within the Caribbean region, with the objective of strengthening their capacities to manage and implement sustainable development plans and programmes at the local, national and regional levels.